

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 19, withdrawn.

1. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) A portable flotation platform for supporting a load above the level of a body of water, the platform comprising:
 - a deck of overall density less than that of water presenting a generally planar upper surface for the load;
 - an anchor device which when deployed and connected to the deck holds the deck against horizontal movement;
 - the deck having at least one connector for detachably securing the deck to the anchor device for vertical movement of the deck relative to the anchor; and
 - a hand attachment device on the deck for enabling a user to grasp the hand attachment device to carry the deck to the point of deployment at the body of water.
2. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation platform of claim 1 wherein the hand attachment device comprises a handle secured to and projecting from the exterior of the deck.
3. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation device of claim 1 wherein the hand attachment device comprises a recess formed in the exterior of the deck to form a handle.

4. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation platform of claim 1 wherein the hand attachment device comprises a strap attached to the deck.
5. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation device of claim 1 wherein the deck further has ends, sides, and a bottom and further comprises a wheel mounted on the deck at one end thereof for rotation around a generally horizontal axis, with the hand attachment being positioned at the other end of the deck.
6. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation platform of claim 5 further comprises a pair of wheels, with the wheels spaced apart from each other at said one end.
7. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation platform of claim 5 wherein the bottom of the deck defines a plane and the wheel projects down below the plane of the bottom of the deck.
8. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) A portable flotation platform for supporting a load above the level of a body of water, the platform comprising:
- a deck overall density less than that of water presenting a generally planar upper surface for the load;
 - an anchor device which when deployed and connected to the deck holds the deck against horizontal movement;
 - the deck having at least one connector for detachably securing the deck to the anchor device for vertical movement of the deck relative to the anchor;
 - anchor storage at the exterior of the deck for detachably securing the anchor to the deck when the anchor is not deployed for carrying the anchor along with the deck to a point of deployment; and

a carrying attachment for enabling a user to carry the deck to the point of deployment.

9. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation platform of claim 8 wherein the anchor comprises a pole and the anchor storage comprises a recess formed at the exterior of the deck to receive the anchor.

10. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation platform of claim 9 further comprises a closure to hold the anchor in the recess.

11. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation platform of claim 8 wherein the anchor comprises a pole and the anchor storage comprises a strap secured at its ends to the deck to form an opening for receiving the anchor.

12. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation platform of claim 11 further comprising a closure for holding the anchor in the strap of material.

13. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation platform of claim 12 further comprises a stop on the deck in alignment with the opening in the strap of material to limit movement of the pole through the opening.

14. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation platform of claim 8 wherein the anchor comprises a pole and the anchor storage further comprises a resiliently biased member on the deck to detachable secure the anchor to the deck, the member being adapted to deform to receive and release the anchor.

15. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) A portable flotation platform for supporting a load above the level of a body of water when deployed comprising:

a deck overall density less than that of water presenting a generally planar upper surface for the load;

a boat attachment device to be detachably secured to a boat and to the deck, which when connected to the boat and the deck holds the deck against horizontal movement relative to the boat;

a deck having at least one connector for detachably securing the deck to the boat attachment device for vertical movement of the deck relative to the boat attachment device; and

a carrying attachment for the deck for enabling a user to carry the deck to a point of deployment.

16. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation platform of claim 15 wherein the boat attachment device comprises a hook at its upper end to fit over the top of the side of the boat, a fastener to hold the attachment device against the boat, and a pole at its lower end.

17. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation platform of claim 16 wherein the connector comprises an aperture in the deck receiving the pole.

18. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation platform of claim 16 comprises a stop for limiting downward movement of the deck relative to the pole.

19. (Withdrawn for consideration pursuant to a Restriction Requirement as being directed to a non-elected invention) The portable flotation platform of claim 16 further

comprises storage for the boat attachment device on the deck for detachably securing the anchor to the deck when the anchor is not deployed for carrying the anchor along with the deck to a point of deployment.

Remaining Claims 20 –22.

20 (Currently Amended). A portable flotation platform for supporting a load above the level of a body of water, the platform comprising:

a deck of overall density less than that of water and presenting a generally planar upper surface for the load, with the deck, when deployed in the body of water, being supported adjacent the surface of the water by the buoyant force of the deck in the water for supporting the load carried on the deck;

an anchor device which when deployed in the body of water and connected to the deck is engageable with a bottom of the body of water for holding the deck against horizontal movement;

the deck having at least one connector for detachably securing the deck to the anchor device for vertical movement of the deck in the water relative to the anchor; and

a pack adapted to receive and releaseably hold [secure] the deck and having a carrying attachment on the pack for enabling the user to carry the deck via the pack to a point of deployment.

21 (Currently Amended). The portable flotation platform of claim 20 wherein the pack comprises a bag having an opening at [its upper] an end thereof to receive the deck and the carrying attachment comprises a pair of shoulder straps on the bag.

22 (Currently Amended). The portable flotation platform of claim 20 wherein the pack comprises a bag having an opening at [its upper] an end thereof to receive the deck and the carrying attachment comprises a handle on the bag.